

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent of: Wilfried Hofmann

Patent No.: 7,655,075 B2

Issued: February 2, 2010

Confirmation No.: 9117

For: FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

March 2, 2010

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ISSUANCE
OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.322

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE,

SIR:

On studying the above-identified patent, the following errors, apparently made by the Patent and Trademark Office, were found (these errors are also noted on the attached form PTO/SB/44) :

On the front cover of the patent, Section 73, Assignee:

"NFT Nonfiltertechnik Gesellschaft Mit Beschränkter Haftung, Bad Homburg (DE)"

should read

-- NFT Nanofiltertechnik Gesellschaft Mit Beschränkter Haftung, Bad Homburg (DE) --.

On the front cover of the patent, Section 30, Foreign Application Priority Data:

"Nov. 18, 2003 (DE) 103 53 894"

should read

-- Nov. 18, 2003 (DE) 103 53 894.1 --.

REMARKS

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.322, a copy of the Assignment recorded on February 15, 2006, showing the correct spelling of the Assignee's name ("Nano..." not "Nono..."), a copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney filed January 11, 2006, listing the correct priority information, a copy of the cover page of WO 2005/007276 showing the correct priority information, a copy of the Notice of Allowance dated September 21, 2009, and a copy of the Issue Fee Transmittal dated December 15, 2009, listing the correct spelling of the Assignee's name are attached.

We respectfully request that a certificate of correction be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

/paul fleischut/

Paul I. J. Fleischut, Reg. No. 35,513
SENNIGER POWERS LLP
100 North Broadway, 17th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

PIF/clp
*Enclosures



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

PTAS

500078561A

500078561A

PAUL I. J. FLEISCHUT
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
16TH FLOOR
ST. LOUIS, MO 63102

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 571-272-3350. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, MAIL STOP: ASSIGNMENT SERVICES BRANCH, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313.

RECORDATION DATE: 02/15/2006

REEL/FRAME: 017173/0485

NUMBER OF PAGES: 5

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).
DOCKET NUMBER: VBW 5664 ✓

ASSIGNOR:

✓ HOFMANN, WILFRIED

✓DOC DATE: 01/08/2006

ASSIGNEE:

✓NFT NANOFILTERTECHNIK GESELLSCHAFT
MIT BESCHRANKTER HAFTUNG
MARIENBADERPLATZ 18
BAD HOMBURG V.D.H., GERMANY D-61348

✓ SERIAL NUMBER: 10564333

FILING DATE:

PATENT NUMBER:

ISSUE DATE:

✓ TITLE: FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

017173/0485 PAGE 2

ASSIGNMENT SERVICES BRANCH
PUBLIC RECORDS DIVISION

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

Electronic Version v1.1
Stylesheet Version v1.1

02/15/2006
500078561

SUBMISSION TYPE:	NEW ASSIGNMENT
NATURE OF CONVEYANCE:	ASSIGNMENT

CONVEYING PARTY DATA

Name	Execution Date
Wilfried Hofmann	01/08/2006

RECEIVING PARTY DATA

Name:	NFT Nanofiltrertechnik Gesellschaft
Street Address:	mit beschränkter Haftung
Internal Address:	Marienbaderplatz 18
City:	Bad Homburg v.d.H
State/Country:	GERMANY
Postal Code:	D-61348

PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1

Property Type	Number
Application Number:	10564333

CORRESPONDENCE DATA

Fax Number: (314)231-4342

Correspondence will be sent via US Mail when the fax attempt is unsuccessful.

Phone: 314-231-5400

Email: uspatents@senniger.com

Correspondent Name: Paul I. J. Fleischut

Address Line 1: One Metropolitan Square

Address Line 2: 16th Floor

Address Line 4: St. Louis, MISSOURI 63102

CH \$40.00 10564333

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER:	VBW 5664
NAME OF SUBMITTER:	Paul I. J. Fleischut

Total Attachments: 3

source=00160200#page1.tif

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source=00160200#page3.tif

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, Wilfried Hofmann of München, Germany have invented an improvement in FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF (File VBW 5664) and have executed an application for a United States patent based thereon simultaneously herewith;

AND, WHEREAS, NFT Nanofiltertechnik Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung, Marienbaderplatz 18, D-61348 Bad Homburg v.d.H., Germany, a German corporation hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE"), is desirous of acquiring certain rights thereunder;

NOW, THEREFORE, for one dollar and other good and valuable consideration, receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledged, I have agreed to and do hereby sell, assign, and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE the entire right, title, and interest in and throughout the United States of America (including its territories and dependencies) and all countries foreign thereto in and to said invention, said United States application, any other United States applications (including provisional, non-provisional, divisional, continuing, or reissue applications) based in whole or in part on said United States application or in whole or in part on said invention, any foreign applications based in whole or in part on any of the aforesaid United States applications or in whole or in part on said invention, and any and all patents (including extensions thereof) of any country which have been or may be granted on any of the aforesaid applications or on said invention or any part thereof;

TO BE HELD AND ENJOYED by said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me had no sale and assignment of said interest been made;

AND I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States of America to issue any and all United States patents which may be granted upon said United States applications or any of them, or upon said invention or any part thereof, to said ASSIGNEE;

AND I hereby agree for myself and for my heirs, executors and administrators, to execute without further consideration any further lawful documents and any further assurances, and any provisional, non-provisional, divisional, continuing, reissue, or other applications for patents of any country, that may be deemed necessary by said ASSIGNEE fully to secure to said ASSIGNEE its interest as aforesaid in and to said invention or any part thereof, and in and to said several patents or any of them;

AND I hereby covenant for myself and my legal representatives, and agree with said ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, that I have granted no right or license to make, use or sell said invention, to anyone except said ASSIGNEE, that prior to the execution of this deed my right, title, and interest in said invention had not been otherwise encumbered, and that I have not executed and will not execute any instrument in conflict herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand.

01/08/06

Date

AN / DD / YY

W. Hf

Wilfried Höfmann

PIF/leb

VBW 5664
PATENT

First Named Inventor Wilfried Hofmann

COMPLETE IF KNOWN:

Application Number
Filing Date
Art Unit
Examiner Name

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION

Submitted With Initial Filing Submitted After Initial Filing

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

the specification of which:

(check one)

is attached hereto

was filed on _____ as U.S. Application No. _____
or PCT International Application No. _____,
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56.

PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (a)-(d) or (f), or §365(b) of any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT application which designates at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Priority Claimed

<u>103 31 709.0</u> (Number)	<u>Germany</u> (Country)	<u>11 07 2003</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)
<u>103 53 894.1</u> (Number)	<u>Germany</u> (Country)	<u>18 11 2003</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)

Priority Not Claimed

ANY FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), ON THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER WHICH HAS A FILING DATE EARLIER THAN THE EARLIEST APPLICATION FROM WHICH PRIORITY IS CLAIMED

<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>
-----------------	------------------	-------------------------------

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>(Application Number)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>
<u>(Application Number)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S. APPLICATION(S)
UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120**

(complete this part only if this is a divisional,
continuation or CIP application)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the attorneys/agents of Senniger Powers who are associated with Customer No. 000321 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Send Correspondence To:	Direct Telephone Calls To:
Customer Number: 000321	Paul I. J. Fleischut (314) 231-5400

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor Wilfried Hofmann

Inventor's signature W. Hof Date 09/08/06

Residence München, Germany Citizenship Germany

Post Office address Mariusstrasse 5
D-80802 München, Germany

PIF/leb

(12) NACH DEM VERTRAG ÜBER DIE INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT AUF DEM GEBIET DES
PATENTWESENS (PCT) VERÖFFENTLICHTE INTERNATIONALE ANMELDUNG

(19) Weltorganisation für geistiges Eigentum
Internationales Büro



(43) Internationales Veröffentlichungsdatum
27. Januar 2005 (27.01.2005)

PCT

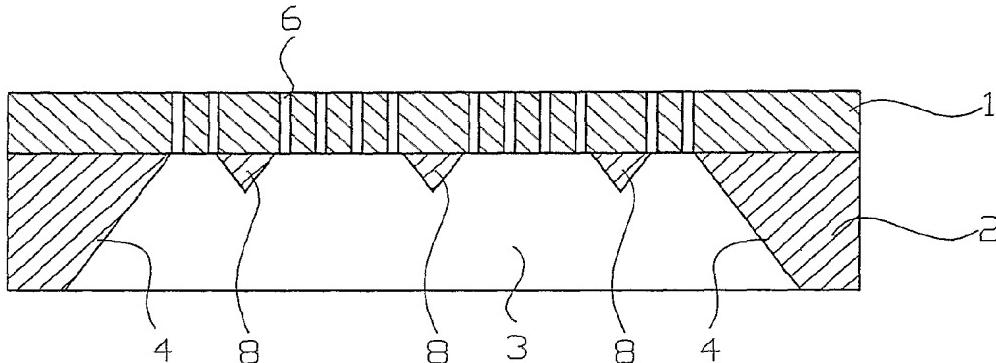
(10) Internationale Veröffentlichungsnummer
WO 2005/007276 A1

- (51) Internationale Patentklassifikation⁷: **B01D 71/02, 67/00**
- (21) Internationales Aktenzeichen: PCT/EP2004/007262
- (22) Internationales Anmeldedatum:
3. Juli 2004 (03.07.2004)
- (25) Einreichungssprache: Deutsch
- (26) Veröffentlichungssprache: Deutsch
- (30) Angaben zur Priorität:
103 31 709.0 11. Juli 2003 (11.07.2003) DE
103 53 894.1 18. November 2003 (18.11.2003) DE
- (71) Anmelder (*für alle Bestimmungsstaaten mit Ausnahme von US*): **N F T NANOFILTERTECHNIK GESELLSCHAFT MIT BESCHRÄNKTER HAFTUNG** [DE/DE]; Marienbaderplatz 18, 61348 Bad Homburg v.d.H. (DE).
- (72) Erfinder; und
- (75) Erfinder/Anmelder (*nur für US*): **HOFMANN, Wilfried** [DE/DE]; Martiusstrasse 5, 80802 München (DE).
- (74) Anwalt: **VON BÜLOW, Tam**; Mailänder Strasse 13, 81545 München (DE).
- (81) Bestimmungsstaaten (*soweit nicht anders angegeben, für jede verfügbare nationale Schutzrechtsart*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES,

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

(54) Title: FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

(54) Bezeichnung: FILTRELEMENT UND VERFAHREN ZU DESSEN HERSTELLUNG



WO 2005/007276 A1

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method for the production of a filter element, said method comprising the following steps: S1) a membrane layer (1) is applied to a carrier substrate (2); S2) a membrane chamber (3) is etched onto the side of the carrier substrate (2) which is opposite the membrane layer (1) such that only one residual layer (5) of the carrier substrate (2) remains; S3) pores (6) are produced in the membrane layer (1) in order to produce a perforated membrane; S4) the residual layer (5) is removed by etching in order to expose the membrane layer (1); S5) the membrane layer (1) undergoes an additional treatment in order to increase mechanical resistance, said treatment taking place during step S1 or in a later step. The membrane layer is provided with a crystalline structure having increased mechanical resistance in relation to the base material of the membrane layer (1) and/or a condensed structure and produces due to said treatment, whereby an inner initial stress therein is preferably produced.

(57) Zusammenfassung: Das Verfahren zur Herstellung eines Filterelements enthält die folgenden Schritte: S1) Aufbringen einer Membranschicht (1) auf ein Trägersubstrat (2), S2) Ätzen einer Membrankammer (3) auf der der Membranschicht (1) gegenüberliegenden Seite des Trägersubstrats (2), so dass noch eine Restschicht (5) des Trägersubstrats (2) verbleibt, S3) Erzeugen von Poren (6) in der Membranschicht (1) zur Schaffung einer perforierten Membran, S4) Entfernen

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

321 7590 09/21/2009

SENNIGER POWERS LLP
100 NORTH BROADWAY
17TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

EXAMINER	
GREENE, JASON M	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1797	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/564,333	01/11/2006	Wilfried Hofmann	VBW 5664	9117

TITLE OF INVENTION: FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	12/21/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

321 7590 09/21/2009

SENNIGER POWERS LLP
100 NORTH BROADWAY
17TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/564,333	01/11/2006	Wilfried Hofmann	VBW 5664	9117

TITLE OF INVENTION: FILTER ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	12/21/2009
EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS				
GREENE, JASON M	1797	096-004000				

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/564,333	01/11/2006	Wilfried Hofmann	VBW 5664	9117
321	7590	09/21/2009	EXAMINER	
SENNIGER POWERS LLP 100 NORTH BROADWAY 17TH FLOOR ST LOUIS, MO 63102				GREENE, JASON M
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1797				DATE MAILED: 09/21/2009

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 498 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 498 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/564,333	HOFMANN, WILFRIED	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jason M. Greene	1797	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Applicants' reply filed 6 July 2009.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 32-51 and 53-64.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 8, lines 3-16, filed 6 July 2009, with respect to the 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections of claims 51, 53-62 and 64 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections of claims 51, 53-62 and 64 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 32-51 and 53-64 are allowed.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Greene whose telephone number is (571) 272-1157. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (10:00 AM to 6:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Marcheschi can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason M. Greene
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1797

/Jason M. Greene/
9/12/09

jmg
September 12, 2009

